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PATENT
P-4423

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): D. J. Wright et al.

SERIAL. NO.: 09/335,218 ART UNIT: 1655

FILING DATE: June 17, 1999 EXAMINER: B. Forman

FOR: METHOD AND OLIGONUCLEOTIDES FOR DETECTING NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE VARIATIONS

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ON: DECEMBER 10, 2001
(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

BY: URSULA M POLIGNONE
(NAME)

Ursula M Polignone 12/10/01
(SIGNATURE) (DATE)

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 13, 2001 (Paper No. 17), please amend the present application as follows, and consider the remarks below.

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (amended) A method for detecting a single nucleotide polymorphism in a target comprising:
a) hybridizing a detector primer and a second primer to the target such that extension of the second primer by polymerase displaces the detector primer from the target sequence, wherein the detector primer comprises a diagnostic nucleotide for the single nucleotide polymorphism which is about one to four nucleotides from the 3' terminal nucleotide of the detection primer;
b) extending the detector primer and the second primer with polymerase to produce a displaced detector primer extension product;
c) determining an efficiency of detector primer extension, and;
d) detecting the presence or absence of the single nucleotide polymorphism based on the efficiency of detector primer extension.

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